



## MARION COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

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### **Former court employees accused of unauthorized dismissal of traffic tickets**

*Two former Marion County Traffic Court employees charged with Official Misconduct and Forgery*

(Indianapolis, Ind.) Marion County Prosecutor Terry Curry announced today that charges have been filed against two former Marion County Traffic Court bailiffs for allegedly forging documents intended to dismiss traffic court cases and various fees owed to Marion County, the City of Indianapolis and the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV). The charges are the result of a report made by the Marion County Superior Courts to the Marion County Prosecutor's Grand Jury Division.

Evelyn Hughes has been charged with 49 counts including multiple counts of Bribery (Level 5 and C Felonies), Forgery (Level 6 and C Felonies) and Official Misconduct (Level 6 and D Felonies). Carnetta Arthur has been charged with 14 counts including Forgery (Level 6 and C Felonies) and Official Misconduct (Level 6 and D Felonies).

According to the probable cause affidavit filed in this case, during their time as bailiffs, Hughes and Arthur allegedly used access granted by their positions to forge judges' signatures on documents dismissing infraction charges before the Marion County Traffic Court. The defendants are believed to have forwarded the forged documents to the BMV to clear suspensions and reinstatement fees. Hughes is further accused of accepting money from individuals to dismiss traffic cases.

Both of the defendants were arrested on Feb. 15. A special judge has been requested for this case due to the defendants' prior employment with Marion County Superior Court.

In a separate and unrelated case, a former bailiff at the Arrestee Processing Center is accused of accessing law enforcement databases for personal use without proper authority or permission. Crystal Jones was charged on December 29, 2016, with seven counts of Official Misconduct (Level 6 and D Felonies) and two counts of Computer Trespass (A Misdemeanors).

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According to the probable cause affidavit in this case, Jones accessed information from multiple law enforcement databases for nonofficial reasons without permission or consent in the performance of her official duties and provided that information to defendants. Jones is also accused of using her official access to complete a bail interview without permission or consent in which she knew the defendant and provided false information knowing that information would be considered by a judge for determination of a bond.

A special judge has also been appointed for this case due to the defendant's prior employment with Marion County Superior Court.

*A charge of a crime is merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.*

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**NOTE:** The charging documents and probable cause affidavit filed for Evelyn Hughes and Carnetta Arthur can be downloaded at:

[https://www.dropbox.com/s/mpsbyv90jy1vsxz/Evelyn%20Hughes\\_Carnetta%20Arthur.pdf?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/mpsbyv90jy1vsxz/Evelyn%20Hughes_Carnetta%20Arthur.pdf?dl=0)

The charging documents and probable cause affidavit for Crystal Jones can be downloaded at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/56s14ak0sy5qpdK/Crystal%20Jones.pdf?dl=0>